

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 4 with the following:

-- Other attempts have been made that try to remedy the problem outlined above, but with limited success. The Internet Imaging Protocol (IIP) has been developed that provides for optimized access and display of a FlashPix files over the network. When using IIP, a FlashPix file that resides on a ~~serve~~ server-can be efficiently rendered. A client (i.e. Web browser) must contain executable code (such as a Java applet, ActiveX control, or browser plug-in) that allows it to request portions of the FlashPix file. This involves downloading of fully rendered tiles or portions of the image at different resolutions. While this does provide for efficient display of a FlashPix file over a low bandwidth network connection, it does not solve the generate problem of linking the low-resolution resultant image file back to the high-resolution digital negative and edit list. IIP is simply a method for serving up and viewing large FlashPix files over the network in an efficient manner. --

Please replace the last paragraph beginning on page 18 with the following:

--It should be noted that in all these ~~embodiment~~ embodiments, several performance optimizations can easily be attained. In particular, when a photo or composition (such as a card, calendar, or album) is printed through a remote location, the customer (end user) may not even need to transmit much data from their local computing device. Although the customer may only have direct (local) access to a low-resolution proxy image, the resolution that best matches the output device (such as a high-resolution printer) will be rasterized based on

the original digital negative and the edit list stored with the proxy image. More importantly, if the high-resolution image resides on the Web (such as Zing.com or PhotoNet) and output is going to a remote device (such as a printer at ~~Kinkos~~ a copy shop), very little client bandwidth is required from the local user's computer device. Since the resultant image has associated with it the edit list and references to the digital negative(s) data, only that small amount of information must be transferred from the user's local computing device to the remote device (such as a print service).--

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please approve the changes to Figure 4 and Figure 8 on the attached replacement sheets.

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER:

The Terminal Disclaimer with respect to US Patent Nos. 6,577,311, 6,850,248, 6,870,547 and Application No. 2005/0052469 will be filed in due course.

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the examiner for his attention to the application and particularly for the suggestions for improving the form, which have been adopted.

Claims 1-6, 11-18, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by OPI,

Respectfully applicant disagrees.

There are two independent claims, 1 and 13. Turning first to claim 1 and dependent claims 2-12, the claimed method includes, among others, the steps of storing a digital negative of a multi media object at a first resolution and a first format and modifying the digital negative to form a resultant image at a second resolution and second format.

The examiner relies on OPI to show these steps. More specifically, an application that OPI refers to as an OPI Producer is described as typically a page layout program that writes OPI comments. A second application referred to as OPI Consumer reads OPI comments and "usually" inserts high resolution image data into the postscript language stream.

The examiner suggests that the claimed digital negative corresponds to the main image in OPI, that is the original, high resolution file mentioned at page 6, and referred to as MainImageID. OPI suggests that the high resolution image can be in any format that the consumer wishes to support including Scitex CT, EPS, and Quark DCS files.

OPI also describes a low resolution proxy image which may be a TIFF or EPS file. The name of this file is designated ImageFileName which is the full path name of the low resolution proxy image.

Significantly, however, OPI says nothing whatsoever about how the low resolution proxy image is formed and more specifically never states or suggests that the main image is modified in any way to form the low resolution proxy image. Furthermore, and as a direct result of this, OPI never describes an edit list based on modifying the digital negative (main image) because OPI includes no tools for modifying the main image. This is clear from, among other things, the absolute freedom of high resolution image in OPI to be in any format. How can OPI teach modifying an image having an arbitrary format? Where is there a mention of an edit list in OPI that results from such a modification.

While the examiner is correct that an ImageCropRect operation is described in OPI, this is a process that is carried out on the low resolution proxy image, not the high resolution main image since the format of the original high resolution file is not even known to OPI. Furthermore, even the crop rectangle function does not meet the limitation of modifying the digital negative to form a resultant image at a second resolution and a second format, since the ImageCropRect function changes neither the resolution or the format of the image. As shown at page 8, the function simply selects a subset of pixels within a defined rectangle describing a portion of the original proxy image. The resolution remains the same and the format remains the same. The only effect is to select a small portion of the image.

This can be seen by referring to the example beginning at page 23 of OPI. As described, a 5760 x 7200 pixel image has been cropped down to an 80

x 60 subset of the image. This cropping changes neither the resolution nor the format of the original image.

In a second step in OPI, a reduced resolution version, sub sampled by a factor of 10 has actually been used for printing, resulting in 8x6 pixels of image data. Note that except for the CropRect function, OPI does not perform any of the conversions or describe how they are performed. That is, OPI does not disclose or suggest any means for modifying the digital negative to form a resultant image at a second resolution and a second format, and therefore does not describe associating an edit list based on the modifying with the resultant image. The only modification described by OPI is cropping the proxy image, the cropping parameters are used in the ImageCropRect function, but there is no suggestion that they are stored in any manner or that they are linked to the digital negative. Note specifically that in the example on page 23 while there is a reference to the location of the proxy image (imageFileName), there is no reference whatsoever to the main image. Furthermore, even if the parameters of the ImageCropRect function are the edit list, this list is not even linked to the proxy image, let alone to the main image. The examiners suggestion on page 9 of the office action that somewhere on page 23 the cited reference discloses the edit list code, and links the digital negative to the resultant image is apparently incorrect. It is not surprising that there is no reference to the main images (applicants digital negative) because no operations are performed on the main image by OPI.

With respect to the remaining claimed steps, the rejection is not completely understood. The examiner refers to pages 4, 21 and 23 for the step of fetching the resultant image but applicant notes that no step on any of these

pages fetches any image. The comment that the OPI Consumer of the cited reference would perform the fetching is not understood, what specific disclosure in OPI provides support for this?

The claim also requires determining an output resolution and an output format of the resultant image. The examiner refers to pages 7, 8 and 23, apparently to the TIFFASCIITag but nothing in this comment relates to either the output resolution or the output format. In the example, there appear to be references to dates, copyright notices, and the computer on which the image was created along with the title in their tag but nothing that appears to relate to either the output resolution or the format. While there is a reference on page 8 to the image dimensions and ImageCropRect, these appear to relate to the cropping function and do not include an output resolution or format. Moreover, as already discussed, the ImageCropRect function is applied to the low resolution proxy image not the digital negative as claimed. In fact the only format that appears to be supported is TIFF and therefore there is no need for a determining step to determine the format. Furthermore, nothing in OPI describes any converting step or any change of resolution or format. Applicant has carefully reviewed pages 7, 8, and 23 and finds no mention of changing the output resolution or format. Accordingly, although an image is printed, it is not printed as a result of the step of determining an output resolution and output format since this step is not carried out.

For the forgoing reasons, OPI does not anticipate claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, as already discussed, the resolution of the image created by the ImageCropRect function is the same as the resolution of the

image on which the function is performed. The only effect of the function is to select a portion of the original image.

As to Claim 3, since, as already discussed, there is no step of determining the output resolution then there is no basis for outputting the resultant image at the second resolution. Moreover, OPI never discusses any options for outputting the proxy image at a selected resolution.

As to Claim 4, as already discussed, there is no mention in OPI of a step of determining a resolution and therefore there is no way to determine if the resolution is a third resolution. There is no discussion in OPI of creating an edit list and therefore no discussing of fetching the edit list. There is no discussion in OPI of linking the edit list to a digital negative and therefore there is no way using the teaching of OPI to fetch the digital negative linked to the edit list since no linking is described. Finally, since OPI never mentions any method of operating on the digital negative to form an image at any other resolution than the original resolution there is no suggestion to form the resultant image at a third resolution based on the edit list.

The examiner's reference to page 23 relates solely to the cropped image. As already discussed, this image necessarily has the same resolution as the original image it is simply a subset of the original image. A cropping does not change resolution. The examiner's suggestion that the disclosed reference shows three resolution conversions is not understood. No conversion is disclosed. At most, page 23 of OPI suggests that another program, not described, could replace an included image with higher resolution image data but there is no discussion of how this would be done and most important, no

discussion of making this replacement based on the determination that a resolution is a third resolution. OPI simply does not go into this much detail.

Regarding Claim 5, the claim requires that the first computing device is coupled to a first input device and a first output device and the second computing device is coupled to a second output device and a second input device. Even if the examiner is correct that the reference discloses servers, printers, and work stations, only the printers are output devices, lacking the claimed input device and the work stations have input devices but no output devices, that is why they are connected to servers and printers. Whether or not it is commonly known that these devices would include input and output devices, which applicant disputes, OPI does not suggest it and in fact there would be no reason for this to be the case in systems described by OPI.

Regarding Claim 6, the claim requires that the first and second computing devices are linked in a peer-to-peer arrangement. The examiner refers to page 4 which discusses linking OPI Producers and OPI Consumers but the consumer and producer designations of OPI are software applications not devices and nothing on page 4 mentions devices at all and certainly there is no discussion of whether the devices are linked in a client server arrangement (which seems most likely given the examiners reference to client and server arrangements in connection with the rejection of claim 5) or in peer-to-peer arrangements. At best, OPI never mentions peer-to-peer arrangements.

As to claims 11 and 12, while OPI does suggest that the digital negative can be in any format, no such suggestion is made with respect to the second format. As specifically set forth on page 7, the only format mentioned for the low resolution proxy image is TIFF.

Claim 13 and associated dependent claims 14–24 include similar limitations and apparatus form and these are not met by OPI.

Claims 7– 10 and 19–22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OPI.

Regarding Claim 7, while applicant acknowledges that wireless computer networks are well known, OPI relates to the communication between software applications and there is nothing whatsoever in OPI about wireless communication among programs.

Regarding Claim 8, the examiner refers to the OPI Consumer as a second computing device where in fact , the OPI Consumer is a second software application, not a second device. Moreover, the only operation described for the OPI Consumer is to “insert high resolution image data into the postscript language stream.” There is no mention of conversion processing as suggested by the examiner.

Regarding Claim 9, applicant relies on the patentability of Claim 8 from which Claim 9 depends.

Regarding Claim 10, as already discussed, OPI does not discuss converting at all. As already discussed, the cropping function does not change resolution it merely selects a subset of pixels. The resolution of the image and the type of image remain unchanged. The reference to the comment that the OPI consumer can replace an image with a higher resolution image data is acknowledged but there is no discussion of how this is done, or most importantly of any choices made based on a determination of a resolution step which is not found anywhere in OPI.

The discussions of Claims 7 – 10 apply to Claims 19 – 22.

In summary, the Open Prepress Interface Version 2.0 draft does not show or suggest the claimed invention. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be reconsidered and upon reconsideration withdrawn and the application passed on to issue.

Dated: June 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Salai", written over a horizontal line.

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REPLACEMENT SHEET

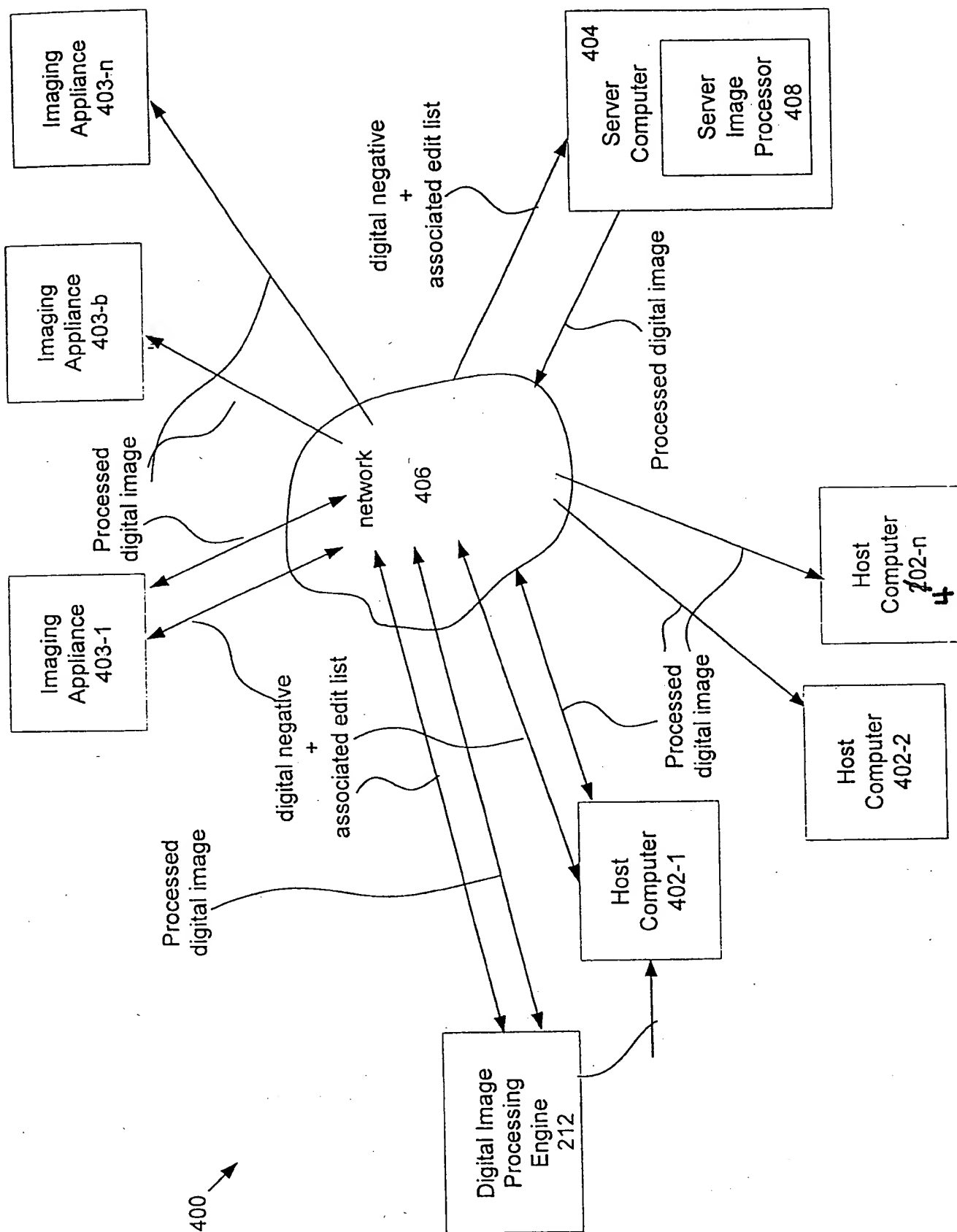


Fig. 4

REPLACEMENT SHEET

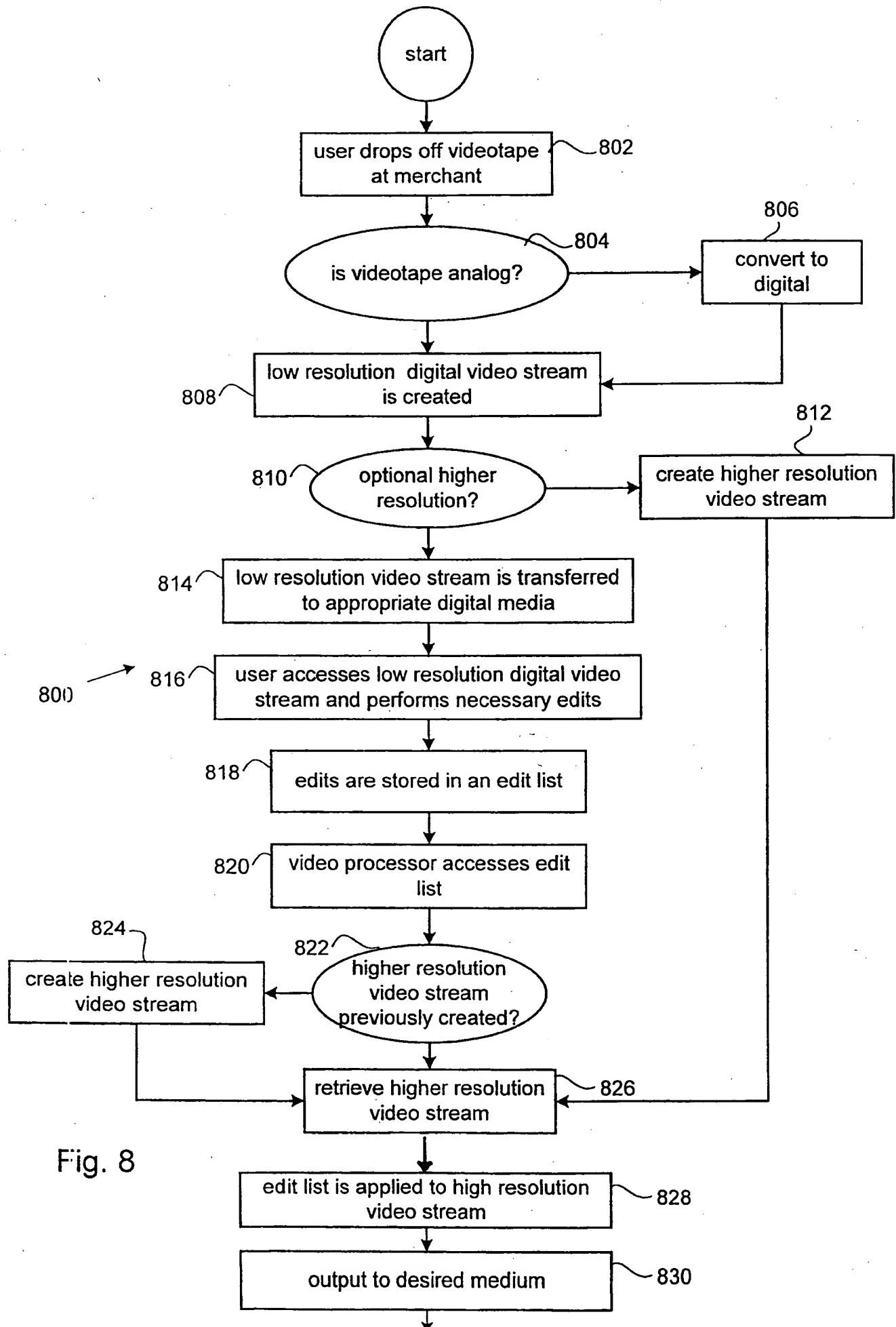


Fig. 8